

REMARKS

The Examiner has provisionally rejected a number of claims on the grounds of non-statutory obviousness type double patenting over claims of U.S. Patent 7,177,329. A terminal disclaimer will be timely filed in order to overcome the provisional non-statutory obviousness type double patenting rejection, if necessary.

The Examiner rejected a number of claims under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent 6,914,637 issued to Wolf. The Applicants respectfully traverse the Examiner's rejection based at least upon the following remarks.

At page 14 first paragraph of the Final Office Action, the Examiner relies upon Figure 2 and specifically cites column 8, ll 53-63 to support the contention that Wolf teaches, "wherein the linking unit does not include a clock line" recited in all of the independent claims. More specifically, the Examiner states the following: "wherein the linking unit does not include a clock line (see Figure 2, reference CH0, CH1, CH2 and column 8 lines 53 – 63 "packet is spread over three channels of a TDMS link (CH0, CH1, and CH2))". Upon careful review of the cited section, the Applicants fail to see how the fact that the packet is spread over three channels teaches or even remotely suggests that the linking unit does not include a clock line as required by, for example, claim 1. On the contrary, at column 11, starting at line 63,

"The FIG. 2 system preferably transmits a video clock over a conductor pair (labeled C in FIG. 2) of the TMDS link, and also transmits a clock for the auxiliary data over at least one channel of the link. For example, transmitter 1' transmits video data to receiver 2' over channels 0, 1, and 2 (which are identical to the identically numbered channels of the FIG. 1 system) during active video periods, transmits audio data (e.g., let and right stereo signals) over one or more of Channels 0, 1, and 2 to receiver 2' at times other than during the active video periods, continuously transmits a video clock (e.g., determined by the rising edges of a binary waveform) over Channel C...". (emphasis added)

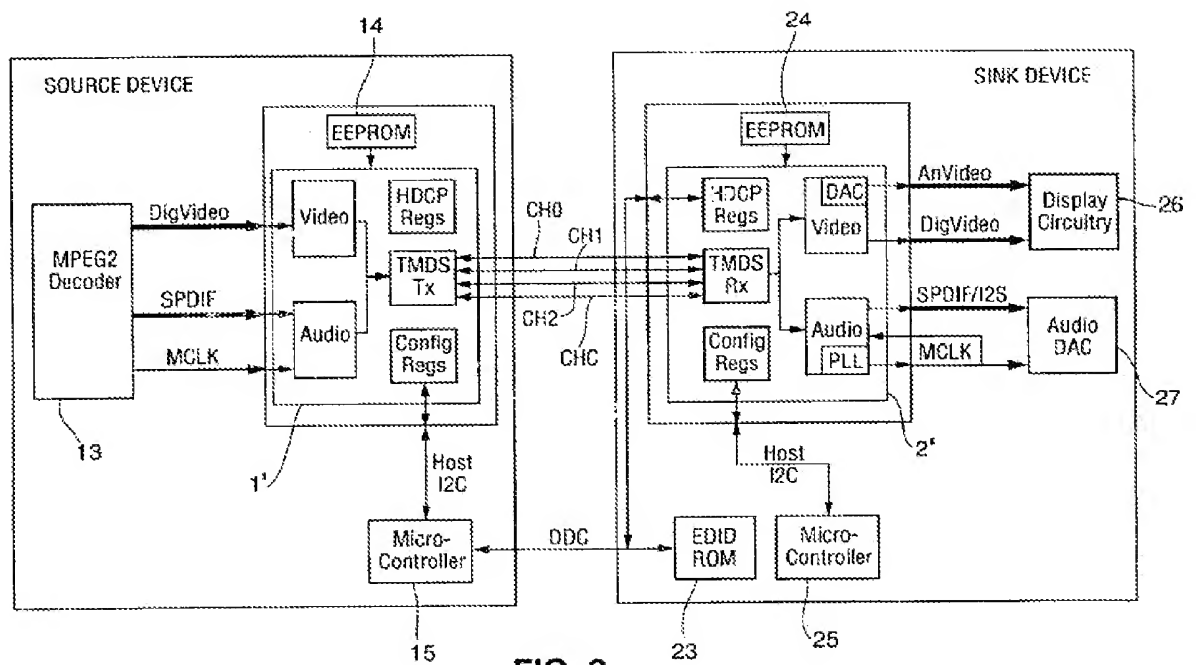


FIG. 2

Therefore, Wolf specifically and unequivocally requires a clock line (i.e., Channel C) over which a clock signal is sent. In addition to the clock signal being sent over the Channel C, Wolf requires that at least one channel of the DDC link be used to carry a clock signal for any auxiliary data sent over the DDC link.

Moreover, the Examiner states that the system taught by Wolf is directed at a Digital Video Interface (DVI) system. In particular, at page 14 first paragraph of the Final Office Action mailed March 31, 2008 the Examiner states, “also note in column 2, Wolf in his definition of a DVI link expressively list the TMDs and DDC channel separately”. Therefore, both the TMDs link and the DDC link have clock lines (see also Digital Visual Interface DVI Revision 1.0 April 2, 1999, Figure 2-1 page 10 and section 2.6 Signal List page 23). This fact is in direct contrast to the requirement recited by all independent claims that no clock line is present (i.e. no clock line in the linking unit as recited in claims 1 and 21 or no clock line is present in the unidirectional main link and the bidirectional auxiliary channel as recited in claim 41).

In summary, the Wolf reference unequivocally requires a clock line be present between the source device and the sink device in both the main link (and the auxiliary channel). This clock line is required to be used to pass a binary clock signal associated with any video and/or audio data transmitted from the source to the sink device.

In contrast, the invention specifically requires that no clock line is present thereby providing for greater utilization of link bandwidth for transmission of data.

In light of the above remarks, the Applicants believe that independent claims 1, 21, and 41 are allowable are as all dependent claims all of which depend either directly or indirectly from independent claims 1, 21, and 41.

CONCLUSION

In view of the foregoing, it is respectfully submitted that all pending claims are allowable. Should the Examiner believe that a further telephone conference would expedite the prosecution of this application, the undersigned can be reached at the telephone number set out below.

Respectfully submitted,
BEYER LAW GROUP LLP

/Michael J. Ferrazano/
Michael J. Ferrazano
Reg. No. 44,105

P.O. Box 1687
Cupertino, CA 95015-1687
(408) 255-8001